



THOMAS, L.

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

March 5, 1980

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Lewis Thomas
President
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
1275 York Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Lew:

My colleagues and I appreciate the efforts that you and your associates have made during the past few months in redrafting the proposed affiliation agreement. I believe it is now very close to a mutually acceptable document. In retrospect, I am sure we were correct in focusing on this matter as an important, initial step in formalizing this new relationship between Rockefeller and Memorial. It has taken us some time to complete the process, but within a few days we should be able to sign the agreement.


In keeping with the terms of the proposed agreement, I would like to suggest that we now formalize the appointment of Attallah Kappas as Director of the joint Clinical Research Unit, linking the Memorial Hospital (within the MSKCC) with The Rockefeller University Hospital. In this way, we can ensure that the planning for the funding of the Clinical Research Unit and the clinical, research and educational relationships involved in this affiliation will move forward rapidly.

As soon as the formalities covering this affiliation have been concluded, I look forward to working with you on the allocation of funding from the RBF Reserve Fund in order to support young clinical scientists, who will be involved in our new program and who will also be linked appropriately with the Cornell/New York Hospital Medical Center. I am sure we all want the recruitment of these young physicians to begin as soon as possible.

According to the agreement Ted Beattie and Kap will chair, in alternate years, the new joint committee. But I hope you will agree that Kap ought to initially chair the committee and that he and Ted Beattie should now proceed to activate our joint program.

This is a fine moment for both our institutions and we look forward to the future with much enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg

bcc: Dr. Attallah Kappas
Mr. Rodney Nichols